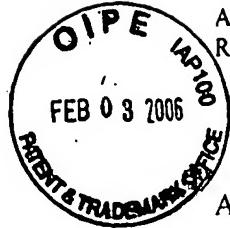


Application Serial No.: 10/616,707  
Amendment dated February 1, 2006  
Response to Office Action dated January 24, 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fanous Att'y Docket: 2682/102  
App. No.: 10/616,707 Art Unit: 3732 3733  
Filing Date: July 10, 2003 Examiner: M. Araj  
For: Self-retaining Retractor Date: February 1, 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 1, 2006

  
Robert A. Hess

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED January 24, 2006

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed January 24, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows in order to put the application in condition for allowance:

Entry  
Recommend 2  
RM  
entry approved  
BM  
2/13/06

A Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4.